

MAP OF RADON ZONES

FACT SHEET

PURPOSE:

- ❖ Sections 307 & 309 of IRAA directed EPA to list and identify areas of U.S. with the potential for elevated indoor radon levels
- ❖ EPA's Map of Radon Zones assigns each of the 3141 counties in the United States to one of three zones based on radon potential:
 - ❖ Zone 1 counties have a predicted average indoor screening level greater than 4 pCi/L (red)
 - ❖ Zone 2 counties have a predicted average screening level between 2 and 4 pCi/L (orange)
 - ❖ Zone 3 counties have a predicted average screening level less than 2 pCi/L (yellow)

AUDIENCES:

- ❖ National, State and local governments and organizations
 - to assist in targeting their radon program activities and resources
- ❖ Building code officials
 - to help determine areas that are the highest priority for adopting radon-resistant building practices

MAP DEVELOPMENT:

- ❖ Five Factors were used to determine radon potential
 - indoor radon measurements, geology, aerial radioactivity, soil permeability and foundation type.
- ❖ Radon potential assessment is based on geologic provinces
 - Radon Index Matrix is the quantitative assessment of radon potential
 - Confidence Index Matrix shows the quantity and quality of the data used to assess radon potential
- ❖ Geologic Provinces were adapted to county boundaries for the Map of Radon Zones

MAP DOCUMENTATION:

- ❖ Detailed booklets are available for every State:
 - Booklets discuss the matrices and data used in every State
- ❖ State booklets are an essential tool in employing the maps' information

IMPORTANT POINTS:

- ❖ All homes should test for radon, regardless of geographic location or zone designation.
- ❖ There are many thousands of individual homes with elevated radon levels in Zones 2 and 3... Elevated levels can be found in Zone 2 and Zone 3 counties.
- ❖ All users of the map should carefully review the map documentation for information on within-county variations in radon potential and supplement the map with locally available information before making any decisions
- ❖ The map is not to be used in lieu of testing during real estate transactions.

